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APR 24 2006
FCC Mail Room
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APR 24 2006
FCC Mail Room

FCC Chairman
Kevin J. Martin
445 12th St. SW
Washington D.C. 20554
04/07/06

Subject: Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service CC Docket 96-45

Dear Mr. Martin,

As someone who is concerned about increased taxes and telephone fees, I oppose the Federal Communications Commissions plan to change the way monies are collected for the Universal Service Fund.

You are proposing a change in the USF collection methodology from a "pay-for-what-you-use" system to a "monthly flat-fee." The flat fee system would result in forced phone bill hikes for me and for millions of low-volume long-distance users in the U.S.. Shifting the funding burden of the USF away from high volume users, like big business, and placing the weight on low-volume users, students, prepaid wireless users, senior citizens and low-income residential and rural consumers, is unfair. I urge you to rethink this flat fee plan. It is a de-facto tax increase of as much as 707 million for 43 million low-volume, long-distance users in the U.S.

I look forward to hearing about your consideration of these comments.



Kenneth R. Ails
6322 Cloud Rd.
Julian, NC. 27283

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MARCIA M THIEDE

408 E COUNTY RD A , STETSONVILLE, Wisconsin 54480-9550

Received April 18, 2006 04:49 PM
& Inspected

APR 24 2006

FCC Mail Room

Senator Russell Feingold
U.S. Senate
506 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-0001

Subject: Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service CC Docket 96-45

Dear Senator Feingold:

As someone who is concerned about increased taxes and telephone fees, I oppose Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman Kevin J. Martin's plans to change the way monies are collected for the Universal Service Fund.

Chairman Martin is proposing a change in the Universal Service Fund (USF) collection methodology from a "pay-for-what-you-use" system to a "monthly flat-fee." The flat-fee system would result in forced phone bill hikes for me -- and for millions of low-volume, long-distance users in the U.S. Shifting the funding burden of the USF away from high volume users -- like big businesses -- and placing the weight on low-volume users -- students, prepaid wireless users, senior citizens and low-income residential and rural consumers-- is unfair. I urge Chairman Martin to rethink his flat-fee plan. It is a de-facto tax increase of as much as \$707 million for 43 million of low-volume, long-distance users in the U.S.

Please pass along my concerns to the FCC on my behalf, letting them know that your constituents have contacted you to oppose a USF numbers or flat-fee plan. Thank you for your continued work. I look forward to hearing about your position on this matter.

Sincerely,

MARCIA M THIEDE

cc:

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APR 24 2006

FCC Mail Room

MARCIA M THIEDE

408 E COUNTY RD A, STETSONVILLE, Wisconsin 54480-9550

April 18, 2006 04:49 PM

Senator Herb Kohl
U.S. Senate
330 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-0001

Subject: Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service CC Docket 96-45

Dear Senator Kohl:

As someone who is concerned about increased taxes and telephone fees, I oppose Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman Kevin J. Martin's plans to change the way monies are collected for the Universal Service Fund.

Chairman Martin is proposing a change in the Universal Service Fund (USF) collection methodology from a "pay-for-what-you-use" system to a "monthly flat-fee." The flat-fee system would result in forced phone bill hikes for me -- and for millions of low-volume, long-distance users in the U.S. Shifting the funding burden of the USF away from high volume users -- like big businesses -- and placing the weight on low-volume users -- students, prepaid wireless users, senior citizens and low-income residential and rural consumers-- is unfair. I urge Chairman Martin to rethink his flat-fee plan. It is a de-facto tax increase of as much as \$707 million for 43 million of low-volume, long-distance users in the U.S.

Please pass along my concerns to the FCC on my behalf, letting them know that your constituents have contacted you to oppose a USF numbers or flat-fee plan. Thank you for your continued work. I look forward to hearing about your position on this matter.

Sincerely,

MARCIA M THIEDE

cc:

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April 19, 2006

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APR 24 2006

FCC Mail Room

Chairman, Kevin J. Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445-12th Street
Washington DC 20554

RE: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service—Docket 96-45

Dear Chairman Martin,

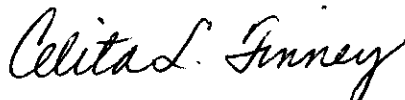
I urge you to support the "Fair Share Plan" as a solution to current concerns with the Universal Service Fund (USF). The Fair Share Plan will keep the USF fair, ensuring the consumers like me do not pay the same rate into the USF as big business, **regardless of how little I may use long distance.**

The Keep USF Fair Coalition submitted the Fair Share Plan to the FCC on January 31, 2005. It expands who pays into the USF so that other technologies—not just phones—pay into the system. The Fair Share Plan collects the USF using a combination numbers and revenue based plan. This keeps the system fair, equitable and non-discriminatory.

Under the flat fee or numbers based plan you are considering, people like me who make FEW long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make MANY calls. I believe it would be **unfair to charge low-volume and residential customers the same fees as high-volume residential or business customers.**

I urge you to keep the USF fair, and adopt the Fair Share Plan. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Celita L. Finney
Nekoma, Illinois
with a Woodhull, Illinois mailing address, 61490

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